

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for energy management in a robotic device, ~~the robotic device comprising at least one energy storage unit and a single detector~~, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a robotic device comprising at least one energy storage unit and a signal detector;

providing a base station for mating with the robotic device, the base station emitting a homing signal comprising a plurality of signal emitters including a first signal emitter and a second signal emitter;

determining whether a quantity of energy stored in the energy storage unit, the quantity characterized at least by is below one or both of a predetermined high energy level and a predetermined low energy level that is lower than the predetermined high energy level;

performing, by the robotic device, a predetermined task based at least in part on whether the quantity of energy stored; and
returning the robotic device to the base station when the quantity of energy stored is less than the low energy level, and wherein the predetermined task comprises a reduction in energy use by the robotic device is below the predetermined high energy level or the predetermined low energy level; the predetermined task comprising:

cleaning without seeking the homing signal when the quantity of energy is not below the high energy level;